CONGRESS

Budget & Appropriations:

The top four congressional leaders of both parties are expected to meet with White House officials this week to discuss a two-year budget deal, a pair of sources confirmed Friday, talks that are needed as deadlines to avoid another government shutdown and raise the debt ceiling loom this fall. Acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin are expected to attend.

The House Appropriations Committee continues to work at a breakneck pace, with multiple FY20 bills released or marked up this past week - Energy and Water and the Commerce/Justice/Science bills should be marked up and passed in full Committee this week, and Agriculture and THUD will be marked up in House subcommittees next
Thursday, leaving only the tricky Financial Services and Homeland Security bills yet to be acted upon. The Senate still expects to begin marking up its FY20 bills after the coming recess in early June.

Hearings of Interest from last week:

House Committee on Financial Services
On May 15th, the committee held a hearing titled, "Promoting Economic Growth: A Review of Proposals to Strengthen the Rights and Protections for Workers."

Upcoming Hearings of Interest:

House Committee on Education and Labor
On May 21st the committee will host a hearing titled, "Eliminating Barriers to Employment: Opening Doors to Opportunity."

Legislative Updates:


The purpose of this bill is to provide "Apprenticeship Hubs" across the nation as it is notes that registered apprenticeships lead to higher paying occupations for those involved. This bill would allow for grants to be dispersed to "workforce intermediaries" including Workforce Development Boards to enact the program and be the provider of these hubs. This bill has been introduced in the Senate as S. 951 and an identical House as H.R. 1995.

Rep. Susie Lee (D-Nev.) introduced the Cyber Ready Workforce Act. The bill would direct the U.S. Department of Labor to award grants to workforce intermediaries such as businesses, higher education institutions and nonprofits to support the creation, implementation and expansion of registered apprenticeship programs in cybersecurity.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Labor & Workforce

Trump's Cyber Workforce Executive Order Aims to Bolster Training and Talent Pool Nationwide
In a recent executive order, President Donald Trump declared the country's cybersecurity workforce a strategic asset to protecting citizens, and emphasized the importance of developing the necessary skills to strengthen the national cybersecurity talent pool.

WORKFORCE WEBINARS, REPORTS, AND MORE

Webinars

Jobs for the Future to Host May 23 Webinar: Modernizing California's Apprenticeship System for the Economy of Today and Tomorrow
JFF is hosting a webinar called "Modernizing California's Apprenticeship System for the Economy of Today and Tomorrow."
Registration
Thursday, May 23 at 4 pm ET / 1 pm PT

Supporting Military Spouses in Licensed Occupations
Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 3:00 - 4:00 PM ET
Learn about the work being done to address challenges in military spouse occupational license recognition. Participants in the webinar will hear from licensing peers and military spouses and learn how to implement promising practices in their own states.

DOL Resource

DOL Releases 'Call to Action for Workforce Development Boards' As Resource for Board Members and Staff
The Department of Labor has launched a new resource for State and Local Workforce Development Board members and staff. "A Call to Action for Workforce Development Boards" translates the substantial statutory strategic and operational functions of workforce boards into a holistic overview of the major roles of board members.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Federal Agencies have recently released grant opportunities that workforce boards may be eligible for. See below for more information.

National Dislocated Worker Reserve: Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities (WORC) Grants

Approximately $28.5 million
Anticipated Publication: May 2019
Awards Made: September 2019

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration plans to award approximately $28.5 million in demonstration grant funds to support alignment of workforce development with existing strategies and plans for economic development and diversification in rural communities in the Appalachian and Delta regions. These grant funds, awarded in consultation with the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and Delta Regional Authority (DRA), will focus on rural areas hardest hit by economic transition and which have recovered slowly. These grants will be focused on the areas within the Appalachian region and Lower Mississippi region.

Full posting available here.

State Apprenticeship Expansion: ETA-TEGL-17-18

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), announces the availability of approximately $73,000,000 in grant funds. This guidance plans to further support statewide apprenticeship expansion by granting FY18 apprenticeship funds appropriated under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018. This new funding opportunity has three primary goals:

1. To expand the number of apprentices in RAPs nationwide;
2. To support and encourage RAP diversification, including increasing the diversity of apprentices and growing apprenticeship across industry sectors; and
3. Support the integration of RAPs into state workforce development, education, and economic development strategies and programs, ensuring that apprenticeship is a viable career path for youth, adults, career seekers as well as a valuable workforce development strategy for businesses.

Issue Date: May 03, 2019
Closing Date: June 03, 2019
Full posting available here.

National Health Emergency Phase Two: Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grants to Address the Opioid Crisis: TEGL-4-18

The U.S. Department of Labor announces the availability of funding to address the opioid crisis through the Disaster Recovery Dislocated Worker Grants program. The purpose of these grants is to enable eligible applicants to create disaster-relief employment to alleviate the effects of the opioid crisis in affected communities, as well as to provide employment and training activities, including supportive services, to address economic and workforce impacts related to widespread opioid use, addiction, and overdose. Eligible Applicants for these awards are: States; Outlying areas; and Indian tribal governments as defined by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(6)).

Issue Date: September 18, 2018
Closing Date: September 30, 2019
Full Announcement (pdf format)

Job Corps Scholars Program - Notice of Intent: ETA-FOA-19-03-NOI

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the Employment and Training Administration’s notice of intent for a future funding opportunity.
The Employment and Training Administration (ETA), announces the availability of approximately $23,738,000 in grant funds. Eligible applicants include two-year, public community colleges; accredited, public two- and four-year historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs); and accredited tribal colleges and universities (TCUs). The Job Corps Scholars Program will enroll Job Corps eligible youth and provide those enrolled with intensive counseling services to support and facilitate each student’s employment and career success.

Issue Date: May 03, 2019
Closing Date: July 03, 2019
Full Notice of Intent (pdf format)

NAWB Members: Connect Your Team to NAWB!

Would you like colleagues to receive these emails and have access to the NAWB Member’s Site?

Respond to this email with their names and email addresses. Remember, they must be within your NAWB Member Organization!

New NAWB Regional Discussion Groups!

Exclusively in the NAWB Members Portal, NAWB members can now network, discuss workforce issues and share best practices with workforce board members in their US region, set by the Dept of Labor (see below).
NAWB Members: Post and Apply to Jobs

We thank Prism Group and Clark Hill for preparing content for this weekly newsletter.

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